CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer system comprising:
a chassis that encloses at least one microprocessor connected to execute application software as selected by a user, said chassis having a rear wall which faces away from a user during normal use; and
an electro-acoustic transducer mounted in said chassis;
wherein said transducer is designed for free-space operation.

2. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said chassis has an acoustic impedance magnitude, as seen by said transducer, of less than half that of an acoustic suspension box of the same dimensions.

3. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said transducer is mounted to said rear wall.

4. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said chassis has a front wall that faces a user during normal use; and
wherein said front wall has perforations, whereby said front wall is made more acoustically leaky.

5. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said transducer utilizes the wall-effect, whereby acoustic spatial impression is improved.

6. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said transducer has a Q_{TS} in the range of 0.65 to 0.8.

7. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein said transducer is a long-throw transducer.

8. The computer system of Claim 1, further comprising a sound card.

9. The computer system of Claim 1, further comprising at least one external speaker.

10. A computer system, comprising:
at least one input device and at least one output device;
a main system module which does not include said input and output devices, and which includes therein: at least one microprocessor which is operatively connected to detect inputs from said input device and to send data to said output device, and random-access memory which is connected to be read/write accessible by said microprocessor;
a bus connected to said main system module, and having connections through which additional modules can communicate with said main system module; and
said main system module being mounted in a chassis which has a rear wall which faces away from a user in normal use; and
a driver mounted in said chassis;
wherein said driver is a free-space driver.

11. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said chassis has an acoustic impedance magnitude, as seen by said driver, of less than half that of an acoustic suspension box of the same dimensions.

12. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said driver has a Q_{TS} in the range of 0.65 to 0.8.

13. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said driver utilizes the wall-effect, whereby acoustic spatial impression is improved.

14. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said driver is mounted to said rear wall.

15. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein said driver is a long-throw driver.

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16. A method of operating a computer system, comprising the steps of:

(a.) executing application software in one or more programmable processors which are contained within a chassis, said chassis having a rear wall that faces away from a user during normal use; and meanwhile

(b.) providing at least one audio output to power at least one driver mounted to said chassis, said driver being designed for free-space operation.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein said chassis has an acoustic impedance magnitude, as seen by said driver, of less than half that of an acoustic suspension box of the same dimensions.

18. The method of Claim 16, wherein said driver is mounted to said rear wall.

19. The method of Claim 16, wherein said driver has a Q_{TS} in the range of 0.65 to 0.8.

20. The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of equalizing an audio signal and providing said signal to said audio output.

21. The method of Claim 20, wherein said equalizing step is performed to work in context with a free-space driver.

22. The method of Claim 16, wherein said chassis has a front wall that faces a user during normal use, said front wall having perforations, whereby said front wall is made more acoustically leaky.

23. The method of Claim 16, wherein said driver utilizes the wall-effect, whereby acoustic spatial impression is improved.

24. An audio system, comprising:
an acoustically leaky computer chassis, having a rear wall; and
a driver;
wherein said chassis has an acoustic impedance magnitude, as seen by said driver, of less than half that of an acoustic suspension box of the same dimensions; and
wherein said driver is mounted in said rear wall.

25. The audio system of Claim 24, further comprising an equalizer.

26. The audio system of Claim 25, wherein said equalizer has at least one predetermined stage of fixed equalization for enlarging spatial impression.

27. The audio system of Claim 25, further comprising gain staging.

28. The audio system of Claim 25, wherein said equalizer equalizes an audio signal as if said driver were standing in free space.

29. The audio system of Claim 25, wherein said equalizer modifies an audio signal to simulate a predetermined acoustic environment when said signal is played through said driver.

30. The audio system of Claim 24, further comprising a sound source.

31. The audio system of Claim 30, wherein said sound source is a CD player.

32. The audio system of Claim 30, wherein said sound source is a wave table.

33. The audio system of Claim 30, wherein said sound source is a speakerphone.

34. The audio system of Claim 30, further comprising gain staging.

35. The audio system of Claim 24, further comprising a sound card.

36. The audio system of Claim 35, further comprising gain staging.

37. The audio system of Claim 24, wherein an apparent origin of a sound is created in a range of 12 to 24 inches in front of a listener's face.

38. The audio system of Claim 24, further comprising at least one external speaker.

39. A speaker, comprising:
a computer chassis; and
a driver mounted to said chassis;
wherein said driver has a throw length greater than ten percent of its minimum cone diameter.

40. The speaker of Claim 39, wherein said driver is a free-space driver.

41. The speaker of Claim 39, wherein said chassis has an acoustic impedance magnitude, as seen by said driver, of less than half that of an acoustic suspension box of the same dimensions.

42. The speaker of Claim 39, wherein said chassis has a front wall, said front wall having an acoustic vent.

43. The speaker of Claim 39, wherein said chassis has a rear wall, and said driver is mounted to said rear wall.

44. The speaker of Claim 39, wherein said driver has Q_{TS} in the range of 0.65 to 0.8.